

We Claim:

1. A method of estimating a signal-to-noise ratio (SINR), comprising:
 - estimating polarities of a plurality of received data symbol samples; and
 - generating an SINR estimate based on the plurality of received data symbol samples and the estimated polarities of the plurality of received data symbol samples such that the SINR estimate is not substantially dependent on a polarities of the plurality of received data symbol samples.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the generating step multiplies each of the plurality of received data symbol sample by an associated estimated polarity, and generates the SINR estimate using the multiplication results as data symbol samples in an SINR estimation algorithm.
3. A method of estimating a signal-to-noise ratio (SINR), comprising:
 - estimating bit values of a plurality of received data symbol samples; and
 - generating an SINR estimate based on the plurality of received data symbol samples and the estimated bit values of the plurality of received data symbol samples such that the SINR estimate is not substantially dependent on a bit value of the plurality of received data symbol samples.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the generating step multiplies each of the plurality of received data symbol sample by an associated estimated bit value, and generates the SINR estimate using the multiplication results as data symbol samples in an SINR estimation algorithm.

5. A method of estimating a signal-to-noise ratio (SINR), comprising:
- estimating polarities of a plurality of received data symbol samples;
 - converting the received data symbol samples into quasi-pilot symbol samples based on the estimated polarities; and
 - generating an SINR estimate based on the quasi-pilot symbol samples.